

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of error detection in an inkjet printing apparatus having a printer host coupled to a print head, the method comprising the acts of:

synchronously communicating a first serial data stream between the printer host and the print head;

inserting a reference data stream into the first serial data stream; and

validating the first serial data stream based on the reference data stream.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising the acts of:

transmitting a print head data stream comprising the first serial data stream and the reference data stream from the print head; and

receiving the print head data stream at the printer host.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the act of inserting the reference data stream further comprises the act of adding to the first serial data stream at least one of a

plurality of start bits, a plurality of sync bits, a plurality of stop bits, and at least one error detection bit.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The method of claim 5, wherein the error detection bit comprises at least one of a parity

check code, residue code, “m” of “n” code, duplication code, cyclic code, arithmetic code, Berger code, Hamming code, horizontal parity code, ~~and~~or vertical parity code.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein the start bits, the sync bits and the stop bits have at least two bits of different voltage values.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising the act of forming the reference data stream with a plurality of bits independent of the first serial data stream.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the act of forming the reference data stream with a non-uniform bit pattern.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising the act of retrieving the first serial data stream stored in a print head memory.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): A method of error detection in an inkjet printing apparatus having a printer host coupled to a print head, the method comprising the acts of:

synchronously receiving a serial command at the print head from the printer host, the serial command comprising a request for a data stream and a request for a reference data stream at a reference location within the data stream, wherein the reference data stream comprises a bit width of at least two adjacent bits;

retrieving the data stream from a print head memory;

adding the reference data stream into the data stream at the reference location, thereby forming a first serial data stream;

synchronously receiving [[a]]the first serial data stream at the printer host from the print head;

searching for the reference data stream at the reference location ~~a validating data stream from within~~ the received first serial data stream; and

validating the received first serial data stream when the ~~validating data stream~~ received first serial data stream comprises ~~a valid data stream pattern~~ the reference data stream at the reference location[[.]]; and

acting on the valid or invalid first serial data stream.

Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Currently amended): The method of claim ~~43~~, ~~11~~, wherein the act of inserting the reference data stream comprises the acts of adding to the first serial data stream at least one of a

plurality of start bits, a plurality of sync bits, a plurality of stop bits, and at least one error detection bit.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one error detection bit comprises a parity check code, residue code, “m” of “n” code, duplication code, ~~and/or~~ vertical parity code.

Claim 16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Currently amended): The method of claim 13, wherein inserting ~~[[a]]~~the reference data stream comprises the act of forming the reference data stream with a data stream independent of the first serial data stream.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The method of claim 11, wherein validating the received first serial data stream comprises the act of checking the reference data stream for a non-uniform bit pattern.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Currently amended): A data error detection system on an inkjet print head coupled to a host, the data error detection system comprising:

a clocking control signal generated by the host;

a print head communication link coupling the print head and the host, and configured to communicate a first serial data stream between the print head and the host, wherein the first serial data stream is synchronously sequenced at a frequency of the clocking control signal;

a data stream register coupled to the print head, and configured to insert a reference data stream into the first serial data stream at a reference location; and

a data validating controller coupled to the host, and configured to validate the first serial data stream based on the reference data stream.

Claim 21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Currently amended): The data error detection system of claim 20, wherein the data stream register adds at least one of a plurality of start bits, a plurality of sync bits, a plurality of stop bits, and at least one error detection bit to the first serial data stream.

Claim 24 (Currently amended): The data error detection system of claim 23, wherein the at least one error detection bit comprises a parity check code, residue code, “m” of “n” code, duplication code, cyclic code, arithmetic code, Berger code, Hamming code, horizontal parity code, ~~and or~~ vertical parity code.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): The data error detection system of claim 20, wherein the inkjet print head retrieves the first serial data stream from a print head memory.

Claim 26 (Original): The data error detection system of claim 20, wherein the data stream register forms the reference data stream with a non-uniform bit pattern.

Claim 27 (Currently amended): The data error detection system of claim 20, wherein the data stream register forms the reference data stream with a data stream independent of the first serial data stream.

Claim 28 (Currently amended): 28. An inkjet printing apparatus comprising:

a print head configured to insert a reference data stream into a first serial data stream at a reference location, and synchronously transmit [[a]]the first serial data stream; and

a print controller adapted to be coupled to the print head, and configured to receive the serial data stream from the print head, search for a validating data stream from the transmitted first serial data stream, ~~and~~ to validate the received first serial data stream when the validating data stream comprises a valid data stream pattern, and to act on the valid or invalid first serial data stream.

Claim 29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Canceled)

Claim 31 (Currently amended): The inkjet printing apparatus of claim 28, wherein the print head retrieves [[a]]the first serial data stream from a print head memory.

Claim 32 (Currently amended): The inkjet printing apparatus of claim 28, wherein the print head inserts a reference data stream into the first serial data stream.

Claim 33 (Currently amended): The inkjet printing apparatus of claim 32, wherein the print head adds to the first serial data stream at least one of a plurality of start bits, a plurality of sync bits, a plurality of stop bits, and at least one error detection bit.

Claim 34 (Currently amended): The inkjet printing apparatus of claim 33, wherein the at least one error detection bit comprises a parity check code, residue code, “m” of “n” code, duplication code, cyclic code, arithmetic code, Berger code, Hamming code, horizontal parity code, ~~and or~~ vertical parity code.

Claim 35 (Original): The inkjet printing apparatus of claim 32, wherein the reference data stream has a reference pattern, and wherein the print controller compares the reference pattern with the valid data pattern.

Claim 36 (Original): The inkjet printing apparatus of claim 32, wherein the print head forms the reference data stream with a non-uniform bit pattern.

Claim 37 (Original): The inkjet printing apparatus of claim 32, wherein the print head forms the reference data stream with a data stream independent of the first data stream.

Claim 38 (Currently amended): A print head adapted to be used in a printing apparatus, to be coupled to a host, and to store a first data stream in memory, the print head comprising a data stream module adapted to retrieve the first data stream from the memory, to insert a reference data stream comprising a reference pattern into the first data stream at a reference location thereby forming a transmit data stream, and to synchronously and serially transmit the transmit data stream to the host at a control signal clock frequency, so that the host, upon receiving a data stream, can validate the received data stream if the received data stream comprises the transmit data stream with the inserted reference data stream at the reference location.

Claim 39 (Original): The print head of claim 38, and wherein the data stream module comprises a data stream register adapted to insert the reference data stream.

Claim 40 (Original): The print head of claim 38, and wherein the reference data stream comprises a non-uniform bit pattern.

Claim 41 (Original): The print head of claim 38, and wherein the reference data stream comprises at least one of a plurality of start bits, a plurality of sync bits, a plurality of stop bits, and at least one error detection bit.

Claim 42 (Original): The print head of claim 41, and wherein the at least one error detection bit comprises a parity check code, residue code, “m” of “n” code, duplication code, cyclic code, arithmetic code, Berger code, Hamming code, horizontal parity code, ~~and~~ or vertical parity code.

Claim 43 (Original): The print head of claim 38, and wherein the reference data stream comprises a data stream independent of the first data stream.

Claim 44 (Canceled).

Claim 45 (Canceled).